

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 030938

60

ORIGIN TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 SS-15 NSC-05 SY-05 USSS-00

AID-05 L-03 IGA-02 /053 R

DRAFTED BY TREAS/OMEA:JNEWMAN:NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:LAB

APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

TREAS/OS:GLPARSKY

TREAS/OS:JGARTLAND

EB/CSB/OSB:ADBRAMANTE

EB/ORF/OFPPFD:RESERVICE

----- 107304

P 071842Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 030938

EO. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT TO SYRIA

REF: (A) DAMASCUS 592, (B) DAMASCUS 510

1. FEBRUARY 28 DATE NOW FIRM SO THAT EMBASSY CAN BEGIN  
DETAILED PLANNING WITH SARG FOR VISIT OF SECRETARY SIMON.

2. SECRETARY SIMON'S TRIP PROVIDES TIMELY OPPORTUNITY TO  
DEMONSTRATE TO SYRIANS OUR CONTINUED HIGH-LEVEL INTEREST  
IN SYRIA AND ITS CONCERNS. WE HOPE SYRIANS WILL VIEW  
VISIT AS BROADENING OF U.S.-SYRIAN DIALOGUE AT HIGH LEVEL.  
WE WANT TO PROVIDE AS MUCH SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT AND  
VISIBILITY TO SECRETARY SIMON'S MEETINGS WHILE IN DAMASCUS  
AS THE SYRIANS WILL PERMIT.

3. WE SUGGEST YOU DISCUSS WITH SYRIANS THEIR VIEWS ON  
CONTENT AND TONE OF VISIT. WHILE NOTING YOUR RESERVATIONS  
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PAGE 02 STATE 030938

RE PL 480 SIGNING (DAMASCUS 510), YOU MAY IN YOUR DISCRETION

APPROACH SYRIANS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WOULD BE MORE COMFORTABLE WITH A PRIVATE SIGNING ARRANGEMENT, WITH

MINIMUM OR NO PUBLICITY, ASSUMING THAT PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION ON SYRIAN ELIBILITY AND NEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENT CAN BE COMPLETED IN TIME.

4. WITH RESPECT TO REFTTEL (A), WOULD APPRECIATE INDICATION FROM EMBASSY OF THRUST OF SARG POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDED U.S. POSITION ON TOPICS RAISED IN PARA 3 AND PARAS 4A AND 4C.

5. IN PLANNING SCHEDULE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR ITINERARY OF ABOUT TWO HOURS THAT INCORPORATES OPPORTUNITY FOR SECRETARY AND PARTY TO SEE MAIN POINTS OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL INTEREST IN CITY. (FYI SECRETARY IS COLLECTOR OF ANTIQUE FIREARMS AND SWORDS; HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE FIRST CLASS ITEMS.) SISCO

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT TO SYRIA  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (SIMON, WILLIAM E)  
**To:** DAMASCUS  
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